IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for improved portrayal of navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~, comprising:
combining at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ into one combined navigation object ~~(4)~~, wherein said at least two navigation objects are graphical objects, and wherein said combining comprises merging said at least two graphical navigation objects into a combined graphical navigation object,
presenting said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~, and
presenting said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~, if said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is selected.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is presented in a first display mode, and wherein said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ are displayed in a second display mode, if said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is selected.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ is associated with one respective target object that is displayed or executed upon selection of said respective navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~6~~5, ~~wherein said combined navigation object (4) is presented in a first display mode, wherein said at least two navigation objects (1-1..1-6) are displayed in a second display mode, if said~~

~~combined navigation object (4) is selected, and~~ wherein said respective target object that is displayed or executed upon selection of said respective navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ is displayed or executed in said first display mode.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ are defined according to a markup language, in particular the HyperText Markup Language ~~(HTML)~~ or derivatives thereof, and are interpreted by a browser.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ are hyperlinks.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~1~~5, wherein said first display mode is a scaled format display mode, and wherein said second display mode is an unscaled format display mode.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~10~~5, wherein in said first display mode, a first display window is used, and wherein in said second display mode, a second display window ~~(8)~~ is used.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~10~~5, wherein both said first and second display mode are used in the same display window.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~10~~5, wherein in said second display mode, at least one of a horizontal and a vertical scroll bar ~~(7)~~ is provided.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining whether said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ have to be combined into one combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ or not.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,
wherein said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ are image hyperlinks within an image map ~~(1)~~ contained in a web page, wherein said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is represented by a selectable scaled graphical representation of said image map ~~(1)~~, and wherein said image hyperlinks ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ within said image map ~~(1)~~ are displayed in unscaled format, if said selectable graphical representation ~~(4)~~ is selected.

17. (Currently Amended) A device ~~(9)~~ for improved portrayal of navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~, comprising:
means ~~(13, 15)~~ for combining at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ into one combined navigation object ~~(4)~~, wherein said at least two navigation objects are graphical objects, and wherein said combining comprises merging said at least two graphical navigation objects into a combined graphical navigation object,
means ~~(3, 10, 13, 14, 15)~~ for presenting said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~, and
means ~~(3, 10, 13, 14, 15)~~ for presenting said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~, if said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is selected.

18. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~17~~25, further comprising means ~~(3, 10, 13, 14, 15)~~ for presenting said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ in a first display mode, and means ~~(3, 10, 13, 14, 15)~~ for presenting said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ in a second display mode, if said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is selected.

19. (Currently Amended) The device ~~(9)~~ according to claim ~~17~~25, further comprising means ~~(15)~~ for determining whether said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ have to be combined into one combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ or not.

20. (Currently Amended) The device ~~(9)~~ of claim ~~17~~25, wherein said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ are image hyperlinks within an image map ~~(1)~~ contained in a web page, wherein said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is represented

by a selectable scaled graphical representation of said image map ~~(1)~~, and wherein said image hyperlinks ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ within said image map ~~(1)~~ are displayed in unscaled format, if said selectable graphical representation ~~(4)~~ is selected.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a computer program ~~product directly loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising software code portions for performing the method steps of claim 1 when said product is run on a computer~~stored thereon, the computer program comprising instructions operable to cause a processor to perform the method of claim 1.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program of~~ according to claim 21, ~~comprising~~wherein said computer program comprises a browser.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~network element~~device for improved portrayal of navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~, comprising means for combining at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6)~~ into one combined navigation object ~~(4)~~, wherein said at least two navigation objects are graphical objects, wherein said combining comprises merging said at least two graphical navigation objects into a combined graphical navigation object, and wherein said combined navigation object ~~(4)~~ is ~~presented by a browser, and wherein~~presentable and selectable to trigger presentation of said at least two navigation objects ~~(1-1..1-6) are presented by said browser, if said combined navigation object (4) is selected~~.

24. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least two graphical navigation objects are merged into said combined graphical navigation object by scaling.

25. (New) The device according to claim 17, wherein said at least two graphical navigation objects are merged into said combined graphical navigation object by scaling.

26. (New) A method for improved portrayal of navigation objects, comprising: combining at least two navigation objects into one combined navigation object, wherein said at least two navigation objects are graphical objects, wherein said combining comprises merging said at least two graphical navigation objects into a combined graphical navigation object, and wherein said combined navigation object is presentable and selectable to trigger presentation of said at least two navigation objects.

27. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein said at least two graphical navigation objects are merged into said combined graphical navigation object by scaling.

28. (New) The method according to claim 26, further comprising determining whether said at least two navigation objects have to be combined into one combined navigation object or not, wherein said determining is performed by a device.

29. (New) The method according to claim 26, wherein said at least two navigation objects are image hyperlinks within an image map contained in a web page, and wherein said combined navigation object is represented by a selectable scaled graphical representation of said image map.

30. (New) A computer-readable medium having a computer program stored thereon, the computer program comprising instructions operable to cause a processor to perform the method of claim 26.

31. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein said at least two graphical navigation objects are merged into said combined graphical navigation object by scaling.

32. (New) The device according to claim 23, further comprising means for determining whether said at least two navigation objects have to be combined into one combined navigation object or not.

33. (New) The device according to claim 23, wherein said at least two navigation objects are image hyperlinks within an image map contained in a web page, and wherein said combined navigation object is represented by a selectable scaled graphical representation of said image map.

34. (New) A method for improved portrayal of navigation objects, comprising:

- receiving a combined navigation object obtained by combining at least two navigation objects into one combined navigation object, wherein said at least two navigation objects are graphical objects, and wherein said combining comprises merging said at least two graphical navigation objects into a combined graphical navigation object,
- presenting said combined navigation object, and
- presenting said at least two navigation objects, if said combined navigation object is selected.

35. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein said at least two graphical navigation objects are merged into said combined graphical navigation object by scaling.

36. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein said combined navigation object is presented in a first display mode, and wherein said at least two navigation objects are displayed in a second display mode, if said combined navigation object is selected.

37. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said first display mode is a scaled format display mode, and wherein said second display mode is an unscaled format display mode.

38. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said at least two navigation objects are image hyperlinks within an image map contained in a web page, wherein said combined navigation object is represented by a selectable scaled graphical representation of said image map, and wherein said image hyperlinks within said

image map are displayed in unscaled format, if said selectable graphical representation is selected.

39. (New) A computer-readable medium having a computer program stored thereon, the computer program comprising instructions operable to cause a processor to perform the method of claim 34.

40. (New) A device for improved portrayal of navigation objects, comprising:

- means for receiving a combined navigation object obtained by combining at least two navigation objects into one combined navigation object, wherein said at least two navigation objects are graphical objects, and wherein said combining comprises merging said at least two graphical navigation objects into a combined graphical navigation object,
- means for presenting said combined navigation object, and
- means for presenting said at least two navigation objects, if said combined navigation object is selected.

41. (New) The device according to claim 40, wherein said at least two graphical navigation objects are merged into said combined graphical navigation object by scaling.

42. (New) The device according to claim 40, wherein said combined navigation object is presented in a first display mode, and wherein said at least two navigation objects are displayed in a second display mode, if said combined navigation object is selected.

43. (New) The device according to claim 42, wherein said first display mode is a scaled format display mode, and wherein said second display mode is an unscaled format display mode.

44. (New) The device according to claim 40, wherein said at least two navigation objects are image hyperlinks within an image map contained in a web page, wherein

said combined navigation object is represented by a selectable scaled graphical representation of said image map, and wherein said image hyperlinks within said image map are displayed in unscaled format, if said selectable graphical representation is selected.